

# 2005 Report of Accomplishments (July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005)

## Pacific Conservation District



### Most Significant Natural Resource Accomplishment

- *The PCD completed 16.5 Miles of Japanese Knotweed control in the Willapa Watershed; this control completed 45% of the area infested with Knotweed with an 88% success rate. The PCD also fenced and planted 5.5 miles of riparian buffers.*



### Mission of the Pacific Conservation District

- *The Pacific Conservation District promotes conservation and provides technical assistance to foster a healthy relationship between people and the environment.*

### Natural Resource Improvements in 2005 - Summary

- *As a result of the BMPs implemented, The PCD protected, enhanced, or restored 450 acres that will longer contribute to surface or groundwater pollution.*
- *Eradicated 188 acres of Japanese Knotweed that led to the reestablishment of native vegetation in the riparian area of the Willapa River.*
- *5.5 miles of fence installed in Willapa Watershed that kept 250 head of livestock from entering the stream there by eliminating erosion of stream banks and nutrient pollution to the Willapa River. Planted approximately 13,000 trees and shrubs within WRIA #24, in addition to the CREP program.*

### Water Quality Implementation

- Provided technical assistance in the implementation of riparian buffers, road abandonment, culvert replacements, salmon recovery and cranberry BMPs.
- Provided technical assistance to 82 cooperators and/or groups, and 85 acres of riparian buffer were created.
- Technical assistance of on the ground projects encompassed over 60% of the total budget.
- Worked with local government and State Agencies to implement BMP's that will address a Lower and Upper TMDL on the Willapa River.
- Cattle Exclusion fencing, riparian plantings and the creation of small farm plans have been our highest priority. Livestock cattle crossings and livestock watering facilities have also been implemented to improve water quality on the Willapa River.
- Controlled 188 acres of Japanese Knotweed across 16.5 miles of the Willapa River
- Provided Technical Assistance to 221 groups landowners and students.

### Basic Funding

- Many trees have been planted through the PCD's public tree sale. Training is provided to customers.
- Approximately 46,395 trees planted in Pacific County last year through conservation programs.

### Local Funding

- Local funding through an MOU with Pacific County to Coordinate the WRIA #24 Lead Entity Process has allowed the PCD to become involved in all Salmon Recovery projects Within WRIA #24. This process has funded projects that have a high certainty of success and a high benefit to salmon. This process also facilitates improved partnerships with local stakeholders. This program funded 5 projects that restored 110 acres of habitat, opened up 15 miles of Salmonid habitat and prioritized projects with Willapa Bay estuary.
- Local funding through an MOU with Pacific County Weed Management has provided the PCD and Pacific County the means to continue eradication of Japanese Knotweed along the banks of the Willapa River. This is a State-recognized Noxious Weed. This funding also allows minor bank stabilization BMPs after knotweed has been controlled. The County and PCD have controlled 16.5 miles and 188 acres of this noxious weed.

## **Puget Sound/Water Quality**

- N/A
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### **Professional Engineering**

- *SW Cluster Engineer provided designs for 1 SRFB grant that will correct two fish passage barriers that will open up approximately 4.5 miles of stream. Completed designs on three FFFPP sites, two which have been funded that open 3.8 miles of stream. Provided designs for 1 watering facility. All projects will be implemented in the 2006 construction season.*
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### **Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)**

- *1 CREP contract that planted 33,395 trees and Shrubs covering 2.6 miles of Stream and 55 acres.*
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### **Livestock/Dairy**

- *All Dairies within PCD boundaries were certified.*
  - *6 dairy operators, 1 Livestock producer and 1 cranberry farm received CSP contracts.*
  - *Installed fencing, riparian plantings and watering facilities for three livestock producers approximately 5.5 miles of stream were protected.*
  - *16 new livestock producers have shown interest in planning and implementation of BMPs.*
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### **Irrigation Efficiencies**

- *N/A- Assisted 2 cranberry producers with new more efficient irrigation systems through NRCS contribution agreement. Solid set irrigation systems and sprinkler heads were installed.*
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### **Watershed Conservation/Habitat Restoration**

- *Replanted 5.5 miles of stream in a TMDL area.*
  - *Worked with Pacific County Weed management to assess and Control Japanese Knotweed in the Lower Willapa River basin.*
  - *Assisted 6 small forest landowners through the Family Forest and Fish Passage Program (FFFPP). Conducted culvert assessments through this program.*
  - *Assisted NRCS through the EQIP program and Contribution agreement to fund and provide assistance for the improvements for cranberry irrigation systems.*
  - *Provided project assistance for the funding of 5 restoration projects that restored 110 acres of habitat, opened up 8.2 miles of Salmonid habitat, will open an additional 6.2 miles of habitat and a assessment that will prioritize projects with Willapa Bay estuary.*
  - *Provided habitat assessments for 6 landowners enrolling in the FFFPP.*
  - *Provided survey assistance to the SW Cluster engineer on 3 FFFPP proposals, 2 have been funded.*
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### **Small Farm Programs**

- *Provided cost share (another funding source) and T/A to 3 producers currently working with 2 others.*
  - *Assisted NRCS in the completion of 14 farm plans for Cranberry Producers.*
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### **Community Collaboration & Coordination**

- *Enter here the most significant accomplishment.*
  - *Formed stronger partnership with Pacific County on addressing Natural Resource Concerns.*
  - *Worked with Pacific County on Upper and Lower Willapa River TMDL issues and continued to conduct eradication of Brazilian Elodea and Eurasian Milfoil on Loomis Lake.*
  - *Coordinated citizens and TAG committee meetings for WRIA # 24 LE process.*
  - *Assisted FFFPP staff and applicants by conducting Fish Passage Barrier Analysis.*
  - *Set agendas and worked with members of the Willapa Bay Water Resources Coordinating Council.*
  - *Assisted on SW local Work Group for EQIP process.*
  - *Assisted NRCS with CSP program, landowner contacts.*
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## Marketing/Outreach & Education

- *Held two upper Willapa TMDL meetings to discuss temperature, fecals and dissolved oxygen. 45 state local government and local citizens attended the meetings. 16 landowners in the upper Willapa Watershed have shown interest in local programs.*
- *Held 11 Willapa Bay Water Resource Coordinating Council Meetings through the year. Meetings kept local community involved with water quality issues. Meetings were not always conflict free but issues were identified and steps to resolve conflicts were engaged.*
- *Attended Family Forest Field Day; Local Producer- Bob Falkner won the National Tree Farmer of the Year Award. PCD and NRCS shared an educational booth.*

Washington Conservation Districts assisting land managers with their conservation choices

